



Leptospirosis: A worldwide resurgent zoonosis and important cause of acute renal failure and death in developing nations

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Abstract:

Leptospirosis, a spirochetal zoonosis, is a globally re-emerging infectious disease that has disseminated from its habitual rural base to become the cause of urban epidemics in poor communities of industrialized and developing nations. This review addresses the issues in the epidemiology, clinical features, and management of the disease, as well as progress made toward understanding the pathogenesis of leptospiral nephropathy. In developing nations, leptospirosis plays an important role as a potentially preventable cause of acute renal failure. The data indicate that in certain developing regions, such as the city of Salvador, Brazil, leptospirosis is misdiagnosed with other infectious disease such as dengue and the overall disease burden is likely underestimated partly because of the protean and nonspecific presentation. Severe forms of the disease are associated with high case-fatality rate. In urban Brazil, outbreaks of leptospirosis can be predicted by heavy rain and flooding and this may serve to indicate which resources should be allocated to prevent the disease. Advancements in the basic research and epidemiology of leptospirosis should contribute to the development of more accurate diagnostic tests and of an effective vaccine. Policy makers should be urged to address the underlying conditions of poverty as well as environmental issues, which have led to the emergence of leptospirosis.

Source: Ask your librarian to help locate this item.

Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change;
 surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker, Researcher

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Extreme Weather Event: Flooding

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

Geographic Location: ☒

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Central/South America

Health Impact: ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Injury, Urologic Effect

Infectious Disease: Zoonotic Disease

Zoonotic Disease: Other Zoonotic Disease

Zoonotic Disease (other): Leptospirosis

Mitigation/Adaptation: ☒

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: ☒

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status

Resource Type: ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale: ☒

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified